514 RecaPCT/PTO 39 MAR 2000

Attorney Docket No. MFA-11902/04

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Jürgen Schlegel et al.

Serial No.:

Group Art Unit:

Filed:

Examiner:

For:

METHOD AND DEVICE FOR PROCESSING FRESH MEAT

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to the examination of this application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 3, line 1, delete "one of the preceding claims" and insert --claim 2--.

Claim 4, line 1, delete "one of the preceding claims" and insert --claim 3--.

Claim 5, line 1, delete "one of the preceding claims" and insert --claim 4--.

Claim 6, line 1, delete "one of the preceding claims" and insert -- claim 5--.

Claim 7, line 1, delete "one of the preceding claims" and insert --claim 6--.

Claim 8, line 1, delete "one of the preceding claims" and insert -- claim 7--.

Claim 9, line 1, delete "claims 7 and 8" and insert --claim 8--.

Claim 10, line 1, delete "one of the preceding claims" and insert --claim 9--.

Claim 11, line 1, delete "one of the preceding claims" and insert --claim 10--.

Claim 12, line 1, delete "one of the preceding claims" and insert --claim 11--.

Claim 13, line 1, delete "one of the preceding claims" and insert --claim 12--.

Claim 15, line 1, delete one of the preceding claims" and insert --claim 14--.

Claim 16, line 1, delete "one of the preceding claims" and insert --claim 15--.

Hof or

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Claim 17, line 1, delete "one of the preceding claims" and insert -- claim 16--.

If the Examiner has any questions relating to the application, Applicant's attorney may be reached at (248) 647-6000.

Respectfully submitted,

Douglas W. Sprinkle

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